

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

MAY 29 1936

May 12, 1936.

Dear Mr. Committeeman:

The Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, under which the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program is being operated, provides that the Secretary in administering this act shall in every practical way encourage and provide for soil-conserving and soil-building practices rather than the growing of soil-depleting commercial crops.

The objective of the 1936 program is to increase soil-conserving crops by approximately 30,000,000 acres. Farmers in the Southern Region are expected to increase in 1936 crops that conserve and build the soil by approximately 13,000,000 acres.

Possibly all the details of the new program are not perfectly clear to you at present. However, we should all be clear on this one point—that every acre in the nine States composing the Southern Region that is diverted from cotton, peanuts, tobacco, wheat, or other crops, should be planted in 1936 to a soil-improving crop if our program is to be considered a complete success. If this is done, we will not only have a successful program and one to be proud of, but will lay the foundation for real progress.

The provisions that have already been drawn up give you ample authority to refuse to approve any application for a grant submitted by any producer who is not in 1936 carrying out the purposes of the act. I would especially call your attention to section 8, part II, of SR-B-1 Revised, which reads as follows:

"Payments Restricted to Effectuation of Purposes.—All or any part of any payment which otherwise would be made with respect to any farm may be withheld if any rotation, cropping, or other practices are adopted on the farm, which practices the Secretary determines tend to defeat the purposes of the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program."

This section in effect means that a farmer who is not really conserving and building his land in 1936 is not entitled to receive payments or grants. Neither should you approve the application of a farmer who is building and conserving just enough land to technically get by while at the same time he is permitting the remainder of his land to lie idle and wash away.

Committeemen have in the past been responsible for the success of the programs, and it is my belief that if we are to have a successful program in 1936 it will be through the efficient work of committeemen. We would like for you to bring to the attention of every farmer you contact his responsibility in getting the soil-conserving acreage in the South increased by 13,000,000 acres in 1936.

Very truly yours,

C. A. Cobb

C. A. Cobb,

Director, Southern Division.

AUG 31 1936

No 3
5085
142UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 7, 1936.

Dear Committeeman:

The unusual weather conditions of 1936 have affected nearly every farmer in the Southern Region and should cause all of us to appreciate the insurance features of the Agricultural Conservation Program. At this time you will be interested in calling attention of your neighboring farmers to both the short- and long-time insurance features of their farm program.

Each producer, who meets the requirements of the Agricultural Conservation Program, is sure of receiving some cash income even though his crops may be destroyed by drought or other causes. No program can prevent suffering and hardship if a farmer's labor and cash investment in crops are completely lost because of unfavorable weather conditions. But, the present program will partly relieve the distress of cooperating producers by making a cash payment to those who have used approved farming practices on their land. This cash payment insurance feature of the Agricultural Conservation Program existed also in the Programs of 1933, 1934, and 1935.

As an illustration, because of a severe drought, the cash income to Oklahoma farmers from the sale of their 1934 cotton crop was only \$21,650,000. The producers who cooperated in the 1934 program received payments amounting to \$8,350,000, an amount that exceeded one-third of the total cash income from the entire cotton crop in the State. The non-cooperating producers, undoubtedly, were affected by drought, and had they participated they too might have been protected to some extent by this insurance feature of the program.

The Agricultural Conservation Program serves as insurance in the following ways:

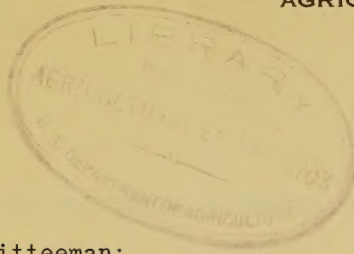
1. All producers who participate will receive some cash income, regardless of what may happen to their planted crops. For those producers who cooperate to the fullest extent and whose crops are severely injured by drought, or other disaster, this cash income may easily exceed all other farm cash income.
2. Cooperating producers assume less risk if they divert a part of their soil-depleting crop acreage to soil-conserving crops because the soil-conserving crops in the main serve to provide needed feeds and foods and because cash outlay may be reduced.
3. The program, by tending to adjust the supply to demand, insures a better price for that which is produced.
4. The soil-conserving crops grown on land that would otherwise be planted to soil-depleting crops, protect the cooperating producer against losses of plant food and soil caused by leaching and erosion. In the long run, such a change in crops grown will mean higher and more economical yields than could otherwise be expected.
5. Improved soils mean better stands, fewer crop failures, lower production costs to producers, and, over a long period, a more stable and less expensive supply of foods, feeds, and fibers for consumers than would be available if soils should continue to be wasted at the present rate.
6. Fewer crop failures mean a more stable supply of products for sale and a more stable income to farmers.
7. A stabilized income to farmers insures to merchants, bankers, doctors, lawyers, teachers, etc., who serve agricultural communities, more profitable business, more regular employment, and better incomes.

We suggest that this phase of the program be discussed fully with your neighboring producers and explained to local business men and professional workers.

Very truly yours,

*C. A. Cobb*C. A. Cobb,
Director, Southern Division.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.



AUG 31 1936

8
+
588
112

August 18, 1936.

Dear Committeeman:

In our recent trips through the South we have seen an increased acreage in lespedeza, cowpeas, soybeans, crotalaria, and other legumes. This has been impressive as well as gratifying to those of us who are associated with you in the administration of the Agricultural Conservation Program.

The extreme drought will likely result in a shortage of legume seed for planting in 1937 in most areas unless special care is used in saving the seed produced this year. The purpose of this letter, therefore, is to stress the importance to you and your neighbors of harvesting and storing an abundant supply of legume seed for use in 1937.

There may be farmers in your community who are not participating in the 1936 Agricultural Conservation Program because of failure to have on hand a supply of seed of a soil-conserving crop, and who were unable to purchase seed because of lack of funds at planting time.

The acreage devoted to soil-conserving crops in 1936 is sufficient to produce the seed of these crops needed for use in 1937. But, if there is actually to be an ample supply of seed available for planting in the spring of 1937, the farmers who now have soil-conserving crops growing must save the seed produced on their farms. Also those farmers who are not growing soil-conserving crops should recognize the importance of having a supply of seed for planting and make arrangements now to obtain the seed they will need in 1937.

As a committeeman you are more familiar with the provisions of the program than your neighboring farmers, and therefore in position to know what they can do to participate, and can assist them to plan in such a way that they may benefit most from the program. You can render no more timely service than to encourage them to save an abundant supply of seed of soil-conserving crops in 1936 and properly store them, in order that they will be available for planting in 1937. Farmers who have adequate seed supplies of soil-conserving crops will be in a far better position to participate more fully in the Agricultural Conservation Program in 1937.

The farmers in your community who are not growing a sufficient acreage of soil-conserving crops, such as lespedeza, cowpeas, soybeans, crotalaria, etc., for production of seed can revive an old custom of harvesting seed of their neighbors' crops on shares. In this way, with no cash outlay, farmers can obtain an ample supply of seed and, therefore, be in a better position to plant soil-conserving crops and to cooperate in the program in 1937. No doubt this can be done in almost every community where lespedeza, cowpeas, soybeans, velvetbeans, crotalaria, and other similar legumes are grown.

We should like to suggest that, in addition to cooperating with the county agent on this problem, you encourage the editor of your local newspaper to publish articles on the saving and storing of legume seed, and that you and your neighbors discuss the importance of an ample supply of seed for 1937 and the best methods for harvesting and storing them.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "C. A. Cobb". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

C. A. COBB,

Director, Southern Division.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF RURAL RECONSTRUCTION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 12, 1937

Dear Sir:

In the recent letter through the Board we have been in contact with you in connection with the Rural Reconstruction Program. This letter is in reply to your letter of August 10, 1937, in which you stated that you are interested in the Rural Reconstruction Program.

The Rural Reconstruction Program is a program of rural reconstruction which is designed to help the rural population of the United States to improve their living conditions. The program is based on the principle that the rural population should be able to produce enough food and fiber to meet their own needs and to have a surplus to sell.

There are two main parts to the program. The first part is the Rural Reconstruction Program, which is designed to help the rural population to improve their living conditions. The second part is the Rural Reconstruction Program, which is designed to help the rural population to improve their living conditions.

The Rural Reconstruction Program is a program of rural reconstruction which is designed to help the rural population of the United States to improve their living conditions. The program is based on the principle that the rural population should be able to produce enough food and fiber to meet their own needs and to have a surplus to sell.

In a recent letter you have stated that you are interested in the Rural Reconstruction Program. This letter is in reply to your letter of August 10, 1937, in which you stated that you are interested in the Rural Reconstruction Program.

The Rural Reconstruction Program is a program of rural reconstruction which is designed to help the rural population of the United States to improve their living conditions. The program is based on the principle that the rural population should be able to produce enough food and fiber to meet their own needs and to have a surplus to sell.

We would like to hear from you again in connection with the Rural Reconstruction Program. This letter is in reply to your letter of August 10, 1937, in which you stated that you are interested in the Rural Reconstruction Program.

Very truly yours,

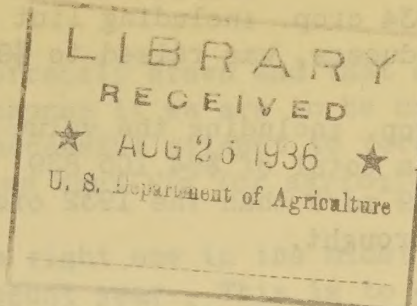
L. B. Nichols

Director

Director, Bureau of Rural Reconstruction

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

1.42
888



August 13, 1936

Dear Alabama Committeeman:

In spite of the remarkable advance that has taken place in farm prices since the spring of 1933 when the Agricultural Adjustment Administration Program was launched, and in spite of the glaringly apparent progress farmers have made in clearing up debts, in paying taxes, and in improving their property since then, and the very wholesome business situation at present, those who have been leaders in our agricultural program are continuously being asked questions seeking answers to the real truth as to what actually has happened. This letter is intended briefly to supply you with some of these answers.

In the spring of 1933 cotton went down to 5-1/2 cents a pound, and cotton seed to around \$8.00 per ton. The cotton crop of 1932 sold for \$37.40 a bale, including the value of seed, and the 1935 crop sold for \$69.99, not including rental and benefit payments.

In the spring of 1933 bright tobacco was down to around 11-1/2 cents per pound. The reports say the present season opened a few days ago at 22 cents per pound.

In the spring of 1933 hogs were down to around 3 cents per pound. On July 15, 1936, they were up to 8 cents.

In the spring of 1933 chickens were down to around 9 cents. They are now above 16.

In the spring of 1933 butter fat was down to 16 cents. It is now up to 24.

In the spring of 1933 eggs were selling at 8 cents a dozen. They are now selling at 18 cents a dozen.

In the spring of 1933 sweet potatoes went down to around 44 cents a bushel. The 1935 crop sold for about twice the 1933 price, and the price is now 90 cents per bushel.

The peanut crop of 1933 sold for an average of 1-1/2 cents a pound. The average received for the 1935 crop was more than 3 cents per pound.

And so the story goes with prices received by farmers in Alabama for the things they have produced.

The 1932 Alabama cotton crop, including the value of seed, brought a total of only \$37,402,000.

The 1933 crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought \$72,991,397.

The value of the 1934 crop, including lint and seed and benefit payments made to Alabama cotton producers, was raised to \$82,025,994.

The 1935 Alabama crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought a total of \$84,105,839. In other words, the 1935 crop brought exactly \$46,703,839 more than the 1932 crop brought, or more than two times what the 1932 crop brought.

We are now in the fourth year of the program. It is significant that we are now experiencing the fourth year of uninterrupted progress. The adjustment in acreage as between crops in Alabama and the payment of \$41,386,396 in rental and benefit payments through June of the present year have played an exceedingly important part.

It is very important that Alabamans note the fact that the 1931 crop, 1,415,000 bales, brought \$37,866,000 less than the 1934 crop of 1,059,000 bales.

It is also important to note the fact that whereas it took 3,271,000 acres of land to produce the 1931 crop, it took 2,243,000 acres to produce the 1934 crop, more than a million acres less.

So it would appear that Alabamans are not only devoting approximately one-third of their former cotton acres to land building or the production of food and feed, but that as measured in terms of what they got in 1931, they have at the same time more than doubled their income from their cotton crop, though they are producing it on a million less acres of land.

The facts about exports are these: American cotton farmers received \$289,120,000 for the cotton exported in the 1932-33 season immediately preceding the cotton program, and they received \$354,357,000 for the cotton exported in the 1935-36 season, which ended July 31, 1936.

That we have made real progress in laying the foundation for a safer agriculture in Alabama, as well as throughout the United States, there can be no doubt. We have pulled down our carryover of cotton by some 6,000,000 bales as compared with what it was in the spring of 1933 when our program was launched, and the promise now is for a fairly satisfactory price this fall for both lint and seed.

Also, this year farmers in some States have experienced one of the most disastrous droughts in history, and for the first time, particularly in those sections where the drought has been most severe, they will get something in the way of full appreciation of the insurance feature of the program. I wonder what the situation would be this fall with those who were wiped out by the drought if it were not for the payments they will receive for diverting cotton and other land to soil-conserving crops?

At the time when so much is being said about agriculture and particularly the effect of the Administration's agricultural program, and when we are being asked so many questions, it would seem wise to review the facts so that our answers can be definite and conclusions correctly drawn. Particularly is it nec-

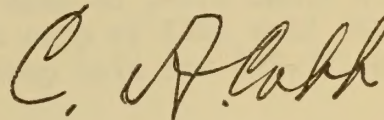
essary that our conclusions be correctly drawn and that our understanding is perfectly clear as to what will happen if we are to be confronted with anything in the way of even a partially successful attempt to force the abandonment of national programs aimed at securing equality for agriculture.

You and your neighbors are right now in the midst of the problems of determining performance for the present year. This is to express the hope that each of you will help see to it that not only everything is done in proper order, but that foundation is laid for a fuller cooperation on the part of all farmers in the future than we have ever had before.

In passing, it seems important to remark that we are not out of the woods by any manner of means, and that equality of opportunity for farm people is just beginning to get under way in earnest.

With many best wishes for continued success, I am

Most sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. A. Cobb".

C. A. Cobb,
Director, Southern Division.

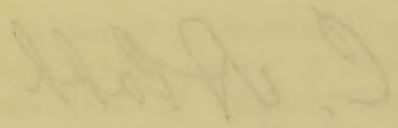
...that our organization be correctly drawn and that our understanding is
particularly clear as to what will happen in the future with respect to
the way of even a partially successful attempt to force the abandonment of
national programs aimed at securing equality for all citizens.

You and your neighbors are right now in the midst of the problems of the
remaining performance for the present year. This is no excuse for the fact that
of you will help me to do that not only everything is done in proper order, but
that foundation is laid for a better cooperation on the part of all farmers in the
future than we have ever had before.

In passing, it seems important to remark that we are not out of the woods
by any means of means and that equality of opportunity for farm people is just
beginning to get under way in earnest.

With many best wishes for continued success, I am

Most sincerely yours,



C. A. Cobb,
Director, Southern Division

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 20, 1936

Dear Arkansas Committeeman:

In spite of the remarkable advance that has taken place in farm prices since the spring of 1933 when the Agricultural Adjustment Administration Program was launched, and in spite of the glaringly apparent progress farmers have made in clearing up debts, in paying taxes, and in improving their property since then, and the very wholesome business situation at present, those who have been leaders in our agricultural program are continuously being asked questions seeking answers to the real truth as to what actually has happened. This letter is intended briefly to supply you with some of these answers.

In the spring of 1933 cotton went down to 5-1/2 cents a pound, and cotton seed to around \$8.00 per ton. The cotton crop of 1932 sold for \$37.40 a bale, including the value of seed, and the 1935 crop sold for \$69.99, not including rental and benefit payments.

In the spring of 1933 bright tobacco was down to around 11-1/2 cents per pound. The reports say the present season opened a few days ago at 22 cents per pound.

In the spring of 1933 hogs were down below 3 cents per pound. On July 15, 1936 they were over 7 cents.

In the spring of 1933 chickens were down to below 7 cents. They are now around 14.

In the spring of 1933 butter fat was down to 14 cents. It is now up to 29.

In the spring of 1933 eggs were selling at 10 cents a dozen. They are now selling at 17 cents a dozen.

In the spring of 1933 sweet potatoes went down to around 40 cents a bushel. The 1935 crop sold for about twice the 1933 price, and the price is now 93 cents per bushel.

The peanut crop of 1933 sold for an average of 1-1/2 cents a pound. The average received for the 1935 crop was more than 3 cents per pound.

And so the story goes with prices received by farmers in Arkansas for the things they have produced.

The 1932 Arkansas cotton crop, including the value of seed, brought a total of only \$48,860,000.

The 1933 crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought \$77,520,279.

The value of the 1934 crop, including lint and seed and benefit payments made to Arkansas cotton producers, was raised to \$77,498,116.

The 1935 Arkansas crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought a total of \$78,326,551. In other words, the 1935 crop brought exactly \$29,466,551 more than the 1932 crop brought, or more than one and one-half times what the 1932 crop brought.

We are now in the fourth year of the adjustment administration programs. It is significant that we are now experiencing the fourth year of uninterrupted progress. The adjustment in acreage as between crops in Arkansas and the payment of \$48,321,991 in rental and benefit payments through June of the present year have played an exceedingly important part.

It is very important that Arkansans note the fact that the 1932 crop of 1,320,000 bales brought \$29,466,551 less than the 1935 crop of 853,000 bales.

It is also important to note the fact that whereas it took 3,378,000 acres of land to produce the 1932 crop, it took 2,137,000 acres to produce the 1935 crop, more than a million acres less.

So it would appear that Arkansans are not only devoting approximately one-third of their former cotton acres to land building or the production of food and feed, but that as measured in terms of what they got in 1932, have at the same time almost doubled their income from their cotton crop, though they are producing it on a million less acres of land.

The facts about exports are these: American cotton farmers received \$289,120,000 for the 8,419,399 bales of cotton exported in the 1932-33 season which immediately preceded the cotton program. They received \$354,357,000 for the 5,972,566 bales of cotton exported in the 1935-36 season, which ended July 31, 1936.

During the seasons of 1931-32 and 1932-33 foreign countries imported cotton at an abnormal rate. They took advantage of cheap cotton and stocked up at the expense of the American producer. They drew upon these stocks as long as they lasted in the hope of buying at starvation prices again. They are back in our markets again, however, and exports are again moving back toward normal levels, the 1935-36 season showing a gain of 1,174,000 bales over the previous season.

That we have made real progress in laying the foundation for a safer agriculture in Arkansas, as well as throughout the United States, there can be no doubt. We have pulled down our carryover of cotton by some 6,000,000 bales as compared with what it was in the spring of 1933 when our program was launched, and the promise now is for a fairly satisfactory price this fall for both lint and seed.

Also, this year farmers in some States have experienced one of the most disastrous droughts in history, and for the first time, particularly in those sections where the drought has been most severe, they will get something in the way of full appreciation of the insurance feature of the program. I wonder what the

situation would be this fall with those who were wiped out by the drought if it were not for the payments they will receive for diverting cotton and other land to soil-conserving crops?

At the time when so much is being said about agriculture and particularly the effect of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration's program, and when we are being asked so many questions, it would seem wise, as we have just done, to review the facts so that our answers can be definite and conclusions correctly drawn. Particularly is it necessary that our conclusions be correctly drawn and that our understanding is perfectly clear as to what will happen if we are to be confronted with anything in the way of even a partially successful attempt to force the abandonment of national programs aimed at securing equality for agriculture.

You and your neighbors are right now in the midst of the problems of determining performance for the present year. This is to express the hope that each of you will help see to it that not only everything is done in proper order, but that foundation is laid for a fuller cooperation on the part of all farmers in the future than we have ever had before.

In passing, it seems important to remark that we are not out of the woods by any manner of means, and that the real battle for equality of opportunity for farm people is just beginning to get under way in earnest.

With many best wishes for continued success, I am

Most sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. A. Cobb". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

C. A. Cobb,
Director, Southern Division.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 21, 1936

Dear Florida Committeeman:

In spite of the remarkable advance that has taken place in farm prices since the spring of 1933 when the Agricultural Adjustment Administration Program was launched, and in spite of the glaringly apparent progress farmers have made in clearing up debts, in paying taxes, and in improving their property since then, and the very wholesome business situation at present, those who have been leaders in our agricultural program are continuously being asked questions seeking answers to the real truth as to what actually has happened. This letter is intended briefly to supply you with some of these answers.

In the spring of 1933 cotton went down to 5-1/2 cents a pound, and cotton seed to around \$8.00 per ton. The cotton crop of 1932 sold for \$37.40 a bale, including the value of seed, and the 1935 crop sold for \$69.99, not including rental and benefit payments.

In the spring of 1933 bright tobacco was down to around 11-1/2 cents per pound. The reports say the present season opened a few days ago at 22 cents per pound.

In the spring of 1933 hogs were down below 3 cents per pound. On July 15, 1936 they were almost 8 cents.

In the spring of 1933 chickens were down to below 7 cents. They are now around 18 cents.

In the spring of 1933 butter fat was down to 15 cents. It is now up to 27 cents.

In the spring of 1933 eggs were selling around 14 cents a dozen. They are now selling at 26 cents a dozen.

In the spring of 1933 sweet potatoes went down to around 46 cents a bushel. The 1935 crop sold for about twice the 1933 price, and the price is now 85 cents per bushel.

The peanut crop of 1933 sold for an average of 1-1/2 cents a pound. The average received for the 1935 crop was more than 3 cents per pound.

And so the story goes with prices received by farmers in Florida for the things they have produced.

The 1932 Florida cotton crop, including the value of seed, brought a total of only \$608,000.

The 1933 crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought \$1,831,750.

The value of the 1934 crop, including lint and seed and benefit payments made to Florida cotton producers, was raised to \$2,360,133.

The 1935 Florida crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought a total of \$2,244,016. In other words, the 1935 crop brought exactly \$1,636,106 more than the 1932 crop brought, or more than three and one-half times what the 1932 crop brought.

We are now in the fourth year of the adjustment administration programs. It is significant that we are now experiencing the fourth year of uninterrupted progress. The adjustment in acreage as between crops in Florida and the payment of \$3,369,675 in rental and benefit payments through June of the present year have played an exceedingly important part.

It is very important that Floridians note the fact that the 1931 crop of 48,000 bales brought \$807,000 less than the 1934 crop of 28,000 bales.

It is also important to note the fact that whereas it took 139,000 acres of land to produce the 1931 crop, it took 92,000 acres to produce the 1934 crop, or 47,000 acres less.

The facts about exports are these: American cotton farmers received \$289,120,000 for the 8,419,399 bales of cotton exported in the 1932-33 season which immediately preceded the cotton program. They received \$354,357,000 for the 5,972,566 bales of cotton exported in the 1935-36 season, which ended July 31, 1936.

During the seasons of 1931-32 and 1932-33 foreign countries imported cotton at an abnormal rate. They took advantage of cheap cotton and stocked up at the expense of the American producer. They drew upon these stocks as long as they lasted in the hope of buying at starvation prices again. They are back in our markets again, however, and exports are again moving back toward normal levels, the 1935-36 season showing a gain of 1,174,000 bales over the previous season.

That we have made real progress in laying the foundation for a safer agriculture in Florida, as well as throughout the United States, there can be no doubt. We have pulled down our carryover of cotton by some 6,000,000 bales as compared with what it was in the spring of 1933 when our program was launched, and the promise now is for a fairly satisfactory price this fall for both lint and seed.

Also, this year farmers in some States have experienced one of the most disastrous droughts in history, and for the first time, particularly in those sections where the drought has been most severe, they will get something in the way of full appreciation of the insurance feature of the program. I wonder what the situation would be this fall with those who were wiped out by the drought if it were not for the payments they will receive for diverting cotton and other land to soil-conserving crops?

At the time when so much is being said about agriculture and particularly the effect of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration's program, and when we are

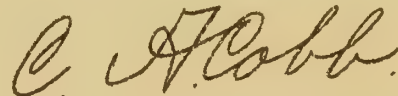
being asked so many questions, it would seem wise, as we have just done, to review the facts so that our answers can be definite and conclusions correctly drawn. Particularly is it necessary that our conclusions be correctly drawn and that our understanding is perfectly clear as to what will happen if we are to be confronted with anything in the way of even a partially successful attempt to force the abandonment of national programs aimed at securing equality for agriculture.

You and your neighbors are right now in the midst of the problems of determining performance for the present year. This is to express the hope that each of you will help see to it that not only everything is done in proper order, but that foundation is laid for a fuller cooperation on the part of all farmers in the future than we have ever had before.

In passing, it seems important to remark that we are not out of the woods by any manner of means, and that the real battle for equality of opportunity for farm people is just beginning to get under way in earnest.

With many best wishes for continued success, I am

Most sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. A. Cobb".

C. A. Cobb,
Director, Southern Division.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 14, 1936

Dear Georgia Committeeman:

In spite of the remarkable advance that has taken place in farm prices since the spring of 1933 when the Agricultural Adjustment Administration Program was launched, and in spite of the glaringly apparent progress farmers have made in clearing up debts, in paying taxes, and in improving their property since then, and the very wholesome business situation at present, those who have been leaders in our agricultural program are continuously being asked questions seeking answers to the real truth as to what actually has happened. This letter is intended briefly to supply you with some of these answers.

In the spring of 1933 cotton went down to 5-1/2 cents a pound, and cotton seed to around \$8.00 per ton. The cotton crop of 1932 sold for \$37.40 a bale, including the value of seed, and the 1935 crop sold for \$69.99.

In the spring of 1933 bright tobacco was down to around 11-1/2 cents per pound. The reports say the present season opened a few days ago at 22 cents per pound.

In the spring of 1933 hogs were down to around 3 cents per pound. On July 15, 1936, they were up to 8-1/2 cents.

In the spring of 1933 chickens were down to around 9 cents. They are now about 17.

In the spring of 1933 butter fat was down to 13 cents. It is now up to 26.

In the spring of 1933 eggs were selling at 10 cents a dozen. They are now selling at 20 cents a dozen.

In the spring of 1933 sweet potatoes went down to around 40 cents a bushel. The 1935 crop sold for about twice the 1933 price, and the price is now 80 cents per bushel.

The peanut crop of 1933 sold for an average of 1-1/2 cents a pound. The average received for the 1935 crop was more than 3 cents per pound.

And so the story goes with prices received by farmers generally for the things they have produced.

The 1932 Georgia cotton crop, including the value of seed, brought a total of only \$34,607,000.

The 1933 crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought \$78,085,978.

The value of the 1934 crop, including lint and seed and benefit payments made to Georgia cotton producers, was raised to \$83,706,725.

The 1935 Georgia crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought a total of \$86,800,250. In other words, the 1935 crop brought exactly \$52,193,250 more than the 1932 crop brought, or more than two and one-half times what the 1932 crop brought.

We are now in the fourth year of the Adjustment Administration programs. We are now experiencing the fourth year of uninterrupted progress. The adjustment in acreage as between crops in Georgia, and the payment of \$42,638,000 in rental and benefit payments through June of the present year have played an exceedingly important part.

It is very important that Georgians note the fact that the 1931 crop, 1,392,000 bales, brought \$26,456,000 less than the 1934 crop of 968,000 bales.

It is also important to note the fact that whereas it took 3,094,000 acres of land to produce the 1931 crop, it took 2,155,000 acres to produce the 1934 crop, almost a million acres less.

It is also a notable fact that no other three consecutive years in the history of Georgia have shown an average acre yield (232 pounds) as great as the three years 1933, to 1934, and 1935 of the agricultural adjustment program.

So it would appear that Georgians are not only devoting approximately one-third of their former cotton acres to land building or the production of food and feed, but that as measured in terms of what they got in 1931 they have at the same time more than doubled their income from their cotton crop, though they are producing it on a million less acres of land.

The facts about exports are these: American cotton farmers received \$289,120,000 for the cotton exported in 1932-33 season immediately preceeding the cotton program, and they received \$354,357,000 for the cotton exported in the 1935-36 season, which ended July 31, 1936.

That we have made real progress in laying the foundation for a safer agriculture in Georgia, as well as throughout the United States, there can be no doubt. We have pulled down our carryover of cotton by some 6,000,000 bales as compared with what it was in the spring of 1933 when our program was launched, and the promise now is for a fairly satisfactory price this fall for both lint and seed.

Also, this year Georgia farmers have experienced one of the most disastrous droughts in history, and for the first time, particularly in those sections where the drought has been most severe, they will get something in the way of full appreciation of the insurance feature of the program. I wonder what the situation would be this fall with those who were wiped out by the drought if it were not for the payments they will receive for diverting cotton and other land to soil-conserving crops?

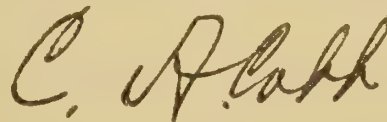
At the time when so much is being said about agriculture and particularly the effect of the Administration's agricultural program, and when we are being asked so many questions, it would seem wise to review the facts so that our answers can be definite and conclusions correctly drawn. Particularly is it necessary that our conclusions be correctly drawn and that our understanding is perfectly clear as to what will happen if we are to be confronted with anything in the way of even a partially successful attempt to force the Government to abandon its avowed program of securing equality of opportunity for farm people.

You and your neighbors are right now in the midst of the problems of determining performance for the present year. This is to express the hope that each of you will help see to it that not only everything is done in proper order, but that foundation is laid for a fuller cooperation on the part of all farmers in the further than we have ever had before.

In passing, it seems important to remark that we are not out of the woods by any manner of means, and that equality of opportunity for farm people is just beginning to get under way in earnest.

With many best wishes for continued success, I am

Most sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. A. Cobb". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "C".

C. A. Cobb,
Director, Southern Division.

... ..
... ..
... ..
... ..
... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..

W. J. ...
...

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
Washington, D. C.

August 19, 1936

Dear Louisiana Committeeman:

In spite of the remarkable advance that has taken place in farm prices since the spring of 1933 when the Agricultural Adjustment Administration Program was launched, and in spite of the glaringly apparent progress farmers have made in clearing up debts, in paying taxes, and in improving their property since then, and the very wholesome business situation at present, those who have been leaders in our agricultural program are continuously being asked questions seeking answers to the real truth as to what actually has happened. This letter is intended briefly to supply you with some of these answers.

In the spring of 1933 cotton went down to 5-1/2 cents a pound, and cotton seed to around \$8.00 per ton. The cotton crop of 1932 sold for \$37.40 a bale, including the value of seed, and the 1935 crop sold for \$69.99, not including rental and benefit payments.

In the spring of 1933 bright tobacco was down to around 11-1/2 cents per pound. The reports say the present season opened a few days ago at 22 cents per pound.

In the spring of 1933 hogs were down to around 3 cents per pound. On July 15, 1936 they were over 6 cents.

In the spring of 1933 chickens were down to around 10 cents. They are now above 16.

In the spring of 1933 butter fat was down to 15 cents. It is now up to 29.

In the spring of 1933 eggs were selling at 10 cents a dozen. They are now selling at 20 cents a dozen.

In the spring of 1933 sweet potatoes went down to around 40 cents a bushel. The 1935 crop sold for about twice the 1933 price, and the price is now 90 cents per bushel.

The peanut crop of 1933 sold for an average of 1-1/2 cents a pound. The average received for the 1935 crop was more than 3 cents per pound.

And so the story goes with prices received by farmers in Louisiana for the things they have produced.

The 1932 Louisiana cotton crop, including the value of seed, brought a total of only \$23,306,000.

The 1933 crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought \$35,349,336.

The value of the 1934 crop, including lint and seed and benefit payments made to Louisiana cotton producers, was raised to \$43,605,152.

The 1935 Louisiana crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought a total of \$46,903,434. In other words, the 1935 crop brought exactly \$23,597,434 more than the 1932 crop brought, or about two times what the 1932 crop brought.

We are now in the fourth year of the program. It is significant that we are now experiencing the fourth year of uninterrupted progress. The adjustment in acreage as between crops in Louisiana and the payment of \$36,849,768 in rental and benefit payments through June of the present year has played an exceedingly important part.

It is very important that Louisianans note the fact that the 1932 crop of 611,000 bales brought \$23,597,434 less than the 1935 crop of 556,000 bales.

It is also important to note the fact that whereas it took 1,688,000 acres of land to produce the 1932 crop, it took 1,221,000 acres to produce the 1935 crop, almost a half million acres less.

So it would not only appear that Louisianans are devoting approximately one-third of their former cotton acres to land building or the production of food and feed, but that as measured in terms of what they got in 1932, have at the same time more than doubled their income from their cotton crop, though they are producing it on a half million less acres of land.

The facts about exports are these: American cotton farmers received \$289,120,000 for the 8,419,399 bales of cotton exported in the 1932-33 season which immediately preceded the cotton program. They received \$354,357,000 for the 5,972,566 bales of cotton exported in the 1935-36 season, which ended July 31, 1936.

During the seasons of 1931-32 and 1932-33 foreign countries imported cotton at an abnormal rate. They took advantage of cheap cotton and stocked up at the expense of the American producer. They drew upon these stocks as long as they lasted in the hope of buying at starvation prices again. They are back in our markets again, however, and exports are again moving back toward normal levels, the 1935-36 season showing a gain of 1,174,000 bales over the previous season.

That we have made real progress in laying the foundation for a safer agriculture in Louisiana, as well as throughout the United States, there can be no doubt. We have pulled down our carryover of cotton by some 6,000,000 bales as compared with what it was in the spring of 1933 when our program was launched, and the promise now is for a fairly satisfactory price this fall for both lint and seed.

Also, this year farmers in some States have experienced one of the most disastrous droughts in history, and for the first time, particularly in those sections where the drought has been most severe, they will get something in the way of full appreciation of the insurance feature of the program. I wonder what the situation would be this fall with those who were wiped out by the drought if it were not for the payments they will receive for diverting cotton and other land to soil-conserving crops?

At the time when so much is being said about agriculture and particularly the effect of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration's program, and when we are being asked so many questions, it would seem wise, as we have just done, to review the facts so that our answers can be definite and conclusions correctly drawn. Particularly is it necessary that our conclusions be correctly drawn and that our understanding is perfectly clear as to what will happen if we are to be confronted with anything in the way of even a partially successful attempt to force the abandonment of national programs aimed at securing equality for agriculture.

You and your neighbors are right now in the midst of the problems of determining performance for the present year. This is to express the hope that each of you will help see to it that not only everything is done in proper order, but that foundation is laid for a fuller cooperation on the part of all farmers in the future than we have ever had before.

In passing, it seems important to remark that we are not out of the woods by any manner of means, and that equality of opportunity for farm people is just beginning to get under way in earnest.

With many best wishes for continued success, I am

Most sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. A. Cobb".

C. A. Cobb,
Director, Southern Division.

S.R. Committeemen Letter No. 5 - Mississippi

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

August 18, 1936

Dear Mississippi Committeeman:

In spite of the remarkable advance that has taken place in farm prices since the spring of 1933 when the Agricultural Adjustment Administration Program was launched, and in spite of the glaringly apparent progress farmers have made in clearing up debts, in paying taxes, and in improving their property since then, and the very wholesome business situation at present, those who have been leaders in our agricultural program are continuously being asked questions seeking answers to the real truth as to what actually has happened. This letter is intended briefly to supply you with some of these answers.

In the spring of 1933 cotton went down to 5-1/2 cents a pound, and cotton seed to around \$8.00 per ton. The cotton crop of 1932 sold for \$37.40 a bale, including the value of seed, and the 1935 crop sold for \$69.99, not including rental and benefit payments.

In the spring of 1933 bright tobacco was down to around 11-1/2 cents per pound. The reports say the present season opened a few days ago at 22 cents per pound.

In the spring of 1933 hogs were down to around 3 cents per pound. On July 15, 1936 they were over 7 cents.

In the spring of 1933 chickens were down to around 8 cents. They are now above 15.

In the spring of 1933 butter fat was down to 14 cents. It is now up to 29.

In the spring of 1933 eggs were selling at 9 cents a dozen. They are now selling at 19 cents a dozen.

In the spring of 1933 sweet potatoes went down to around 39 cents a bushel. The 1935 crop sold for almost twice the 1933 price, and the price is now 90 cents per bushel.

The peanut crop of 1933 sold for an average of 1-1/2 cents a pound. The average received for the 1935 crop was more than 3 cents per pound.

And so the story goes with prices received by farmers in Mississippi for the things they have produced.

The 1932 Mississippi cotton crop, including the value of seed, brought a total of only \$46,618,000.

The 1933 crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought \$86,830,250.

The value of the 1934 crop, including lint and seed and benefit payments made to Mississippi cotton producers, was raised to \$102,246,140.

The 1935 Mississippi crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought a total of \$107,984,692. In other words, the 1935 crop brought exactly \$61,366,692 more than the 1932 crop brought, or almost two and one-half times what the 1932 crop brought.

We are now in the fourth year of the Adjustment Administration programs. It is significant that we are now experiencing the fourth year of uninterrupted progress. The adjustment in acreage as between crops in Mississippi and the payment of \$48,904,095 in rental and benefit payments through June of the present year have played an exceedingly important part.

It is very important that Mississippians note the fact that the 1931 crop of 1,761,000 bales brought \$40,343,140 less than the 1934 crop of 1,142,000 bales.

It is also important to note the fact that whereas it took 3,994,000 acres of land to produce the 1931 crop, it took 2,530,000 acres to produce the 1934 crop, more than a million acres less.

So it would appear that Mississippians not only are devoting approximately one-third of their former cotton acres to land building or the production of food and feed, but that as measured in terms of what they got in 1932, they have at the same time more than doubled their income from their cotton crop, though they are producing it on over a million less acres of land.

The facts about exports are these: American cotton farmers received \$289,120,000 for the 8,419,399 bales of cotton exported in the 1932-33 season which immediately preceded the cotton program. They received \$354,357,000 for the 5,972,566 bales of cotton exported in the 1935-36 season, which ended July 31, 1936.

During the seasons of 1931-32 and 1932-33 foreign countries imported cotton at an abnormal rate. They took advantage of cheap cotton and stocked up at the expense of the American producer. They drew upon these stocks as long as they lasted in the hope of buying at starvation prices again. They are back in our markets again, however, and exports are again moving back toward normal levels, the 1935-36 season showing a gain of 1,174,000 bales over the previous season.

That we have made real progress in laying the foundation for a safer agriculture in Mississippi, as well as throughout the United States, there can be no doubt. We have pulled down our carryover of cotton by some 6,000,000 bales as compared with what it was in the spring of 1933 when our program was launched, and the promise now is for a fairly satisfactory price this fall for both lint and seed.

Also, this year farmers in some States have experienced one of the most disastrous droughts in history, and for the first time, particularly in those sections where the drought has been most severe, they will get something in the way of full appreciation of the insurance feature of the program. I wonder what the situation would be this fall with those who were wiped out by the drought if it were not for the payments they will receive for diverting cotton and other land to soil-conserving crops?

At the time when so much is being said about agriculture and particularly the effect of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration's program, and when we are being asked so many questions, it would seem wise, as we have just done, to review the facts so that our answers can be definite and conclusions correctly drawn. Particularly is it necessary that our conclusions be correctly drawn and that our understanding is perfectly clear as to what will happen if we are to be confronted with anything in the way of even a partially successful attempt to force the abandonment of national programs aimed at securing equality for agriculture.

You and your neighbors are right now in the midst of the problems of determining performance for the present year. This is to express the hope that each of you will help see to it that not only everything is done in proper order, but that foundation is laid for a fuller cooperation on the part of all farmers in the future than we have ever had before.

In passing, it seems important to remark that we are not out of the woods by any manner of means, and that equality of opportunity for farm people is just beginning to get under way in earnest.

With many best wishes for continued success, I am

Most sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. A. Cobb".

C. A. Cobb,
Director, Southern Division.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

August 19, 1936

Dear Oklahoma Committeeman:

In spite of the remarkable advance that has taken place in farm prices since the spring of 1933 when the Agricultural Adjustment Administration Program was launched, and in spite of the glaringly apparent progress farmers have made in clearing up debts, in paying taxes, and in improving their property since then, and the very wholesome business situation at present, those who have been leaders in our agricultural program are continuously being asked questions seeking answers to the real truth as to what actually has happened. This letter is intended briefly to supply you with some of these answers.

In the spring of 1933 cotton went down to 5-1/2 cents a pound, and cotton seed to around \$8.00 per ton. The cotton crop of 1932 sold for \$37.40 a bale, including the value of seed, and the 1935 crop sold for \$69.99, not including rental and benefit payments.

In the spring of 1933 the farm price of wheat in Oklahoma was 31 cents per bushel. It is now selling at 97 cents per bushel.

In the spring of 1933 bright tobacco was down to around 11-1/2 cents per pound. The reports say the present season opened a few days ago at 22 cents per pound.

In the spring of 1933 hogs were down below 3 cents per pound. On July 15, 1936 they were almost 9 cents.

In the spring of 1933 chickens were down to below 7 cents. They are now around 14.

In the spring of 1933 butter fat was down to 15 cents. It is now up to 30.

In the spring of 1933 eggs were selling below 9 cents a dozen. They are now selling at 17 cents a dozen.

In the spring of 1933 sweet potatoes went down to around 48 cents a bushel. The 1935 crop sold for about twice the 1933 price, and the price is now \$1.20 per bushel.

The peanut crop of 1933 sold for an average of 1-1/2 cents a pound. The average received for the 1935 crop was more than 3 cents per pound.

And so the story goes with prices received by farmers in Oklahoma for the things they have produced.

The 1932 Oklahoma cotton crop, including the value of seed, brought a total of only \$37,118,000.

The 1933 crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought \$84,579,753.

The value of the 1934 crop, including lint and seed and benefit payments made to Oklahoma cotton producers, was only \$32,012,416, but the 1935 crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought a total of \$46,183,127.

We are now in the fourth year of the Adjustment Administration programs. It is significant that we are now experiencing the fourth year of uninterrupted progress. The adjustment in acreage as between crops in Oklahoma and the payment of \$66,489,260 in rental and benefit payments through June of the present year have played an exceedingly important part.

It is very important that Oklahomans note the fact that the 1932 crop of 1,084,000 bales brought \$9,065,127 less than the 1935 crop of 567,000 bales.

It is also important to note the fact that whereas it took 3,108,000 acres of land to produce the 1932 crop, it took 2,318,000 acres to produce the 1935 crop, or almost a million acres less.

The facts about exports are these: American cotton farmers received \$289,120,000 for the 8,419,399 bales of cotton exported in the 1932-33 season which immediately preceded the cotton program. They received \$354,357,000 for the 5,972,566 bales of cotton exported in the 1935-36 season, which ended July 31, 1936.

During the seasons of 1931-32 and 1932-33 foreign countries imported cotton at an abnormal rate. They took advantage of cheap cotton and stocked up at the expense of the American producer. They drew upon these stocks as long as they lasted in the hope of buying at starvation prices again. They are back in our markets again, however, and exports are again moving back toward normal levels, the 1935-36 season showing a gain of 1,174,000 bales over the previous season.

That we have made real progress in laying the foundation for a safer agriculture in Oklahoma, as well as throughout the United States, there can be no doubt. We have pulled down our carryover of cotton by some 6,000,000 bales as compared with what it was in the spring of 1933 when our program was launched, and the promise now is for a fairly satisfactory price this fall for both lint and seed.

Also, this year Oklahoma farmers have experienced one of the most disastrous droughts in history, and for the first time, particularly in those sections where the drought has been most severe, they will get something in the way of full appreciation of the insurance feature of the program. I wonder what the situation would be this fall with those who were wiped out by the drought if it were not for the payments they will receive for diverting cotton and other land to soil-conserving crops?

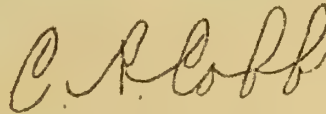
At the time when so much is being said about agriculture and particularly the effect of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration's program, and when we are being asked so many questions, it would seem wise, as we have just done, to review the facts so that our answers can be definite and conclusions correctly drawn. Particularly is it necessary that our conclusions be correctly drawn and that our understanding is perfectly clear as to what will happen if we are to be confronted with anything in the way of even a partially successful attempt to force the abandonment of national programs aimed at securing equality for agriculture.

You and your neighbors are right now in the midst of the problems of determining performance for the present year. This is to express the hope that each of you will help see to it that not only everything is done in proper order, but that foundation is laid for a fuller cooperation on the part of all farmers in the future than we have ever had before.

In passing, it seems important to remark that we are not out of the woods by any manner of means, and that equality of opportunity for farm people is just beginning to get under way in earnest.

With many best wishes for continued success, I am

Most sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. A. Cobb".

C. A. Cobb,
Director, Southern Division.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

August 18, 1936

Dear South Carolina Committeeman:

In spite of the remarkable advance that has taken place in farm prices since the spring of 1933 when the Agricultural Adjustment Administration Program was launched, and in spite of the glaringly apparent progress farmers have made in clearing up debts, in paying taxes, and in improving their property since then, and the very wholesome business situation at present, those who have been leaders in our agricultural program are continuously being asked questions seeking answers to the real truth as to what actually has happened. This letter is intended briefly to supply you with some of these answers.

In the spring of 1933 cotton went down to 5-1/2 cents a pound, and cotton seed to around \$8.00 per ton. The cotton crop of 1932 sold for \$37.40 a bale, including the value of seed, and the 1935 crop sold for \$69.99 not including rental and benefit payments.

In the spring of 1933 bright tobacco was down to around 11-1/2 cents per pound. The reports say the present season opened a few days ago at 22 cents per pound.

In the spring of 1933 hogs were down to around 3 cents per pound. On July 15, 1936 they were up to 8-1/2 cents.

In the spring of 1933 chickens were down to around 9 cents. They are now around 19.

In the spring of 1933 butter fat was down to 17 cents. It is now up to 26.

In the spring of 1933 eggs were selling at 12 cents a dozen. They are now selling at 21 cents a dozen.

In the spring of 1933 sweet potatoes went down to around 44 cents a bushel. The 1935 crop sold for about twice the 1933 price, and the price is now 80 cents per bushel.

The peanut crop of 1933 sold for an average of 1-1/2 cents a pound. The average received for the 1935 crop was more than 4 cents per pound.

And so the story goes with prices received by farmers in South Carolina for the things they have produced.

The 1932 South Carolina cotton crop, including the value of seed, brought a total of only \$29,760,000.

The 1933 crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought \$54,927,000.

The value of the 1934 crop, including lint and seed and benefit payments made to South Carolina cotton producers, was raised to \$59,906,000.

The 1935 South Carolina crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought a total of \$61,780,000. In other words, the 1935 crop brought exactly \$32,020,000 more than the 1932 crop brought, or more than two times what the 1932 crop brought.

We are now in the fourth year of the program. It is significant that we are now experiencing the fourth year of uninterrupted progress. The adjustment in acreage as between crops in South Carolina and the payment of \$30,519,000 in rental and benefit payments through June of the present year has played an exceedingly important part.

It is very important that South Carolinians note the fact that the 1931 crop, 1,005,000 bales, brought \$20,362,000 less than the 1934 crop of 678,000 bales.

It is also important to note the fact that whereas it took 1,759,000 acres of land to produce the 1931 crop, it took 1,268,000 acres to produce the 1934 crop, almost a half million acres less.

So it would not only appear that South Carolinians are devoting approximately one-third of their former cotton acres to land building or the production of food and feed, but that as measured in terms of what they got in 1931, have at the same time more than doubled their income from their cotton crop, though they are producing it on a half million less acres of land.

The facts about exports are these: American cotton farmers received \$289,120,000 for the 8,419,399 bales of cotton exported in the 1932-33 season which immediately preceded the cotton program. They received \$354,357,000 for the 5,972,566 bales of cotton exported in the 1935-36 season, which ended July 31, 1936.

During the seasons of 1931-32 and 1932-33 foreign countries imported cotton at an abnormal rate. They took advantage of cheap cotton and stocked up at the expense of the American producer. They drew upon these stocks as long as they lasted in the hope of buying at starvation prices again. They are back in our markets again, however, and exports are again moving back toward normal levels, the 1935-36 season showing a gain of 1,174,000 bales over the previous season.

That we have made real progress in laying the foundation for a safer agriculture in South Carolina, as well as throughout the United States, there can be no doubt. We have pulled down our carryover of cotton by some 6,000,000 bales as compared with what it was in the spring of 1933 when our program was launched, and the promise now is for a fairly satisfactory price this fall for both lint and seed.

Also, this year South Carolina farmers in some counties and in some regions have experienced one of the most disastrous droughts in history, and for the first time, particularly in those sections where the drought has been most severe, they will get something in the way of full appreciation of the insurance feature of the program. I wonder what the situation would be this fall with those who were wiped out by the drought if it were not for the payments they will receive for diverting cotton and other land to soil-conserving crops?

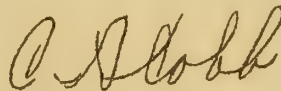
At the time when so much is being said about agriculture and particularly the effect of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration's program, and when we are being asked so many questions, it would seem wise, as we have just done, to review the facts so that our answers can be definite and conclusions correctly drawn. Particularly is it necessary that our conclusions be correctly drawn and that our understanding is perfectly clear as to what will happen if we are to be confronted with anything in the way of even a partially successful attempt to force the abandonment of national programs aimed at securing equality for agriculture.

You and your neighbors are right now in the midst of the problems of determining performance for the present year. This is to express the hope that each of you will help see to it that not only everything is done in proper order, but that foundation is laid for a fuller cooperation on the part of all farmers in the future than we have ever had before.

In passing, it seems important to remark that we are not out of the woods by any manner of means, and that equality of opportunity for farm people is just beginning to get under way in earnest.

With many best wishes for continued success, I am

Most sincerely yours,



C. A. Cobb,
Director, Southern Division.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
Washington, D. C.

1936

August 24, 1936

Dear Texas Committeeman:

In spite of the remarkable advance that has taken place in farm prices since the spring of 1933 when the Agricultural Adjustment Administration Program was launched, and in spite of the glaringly apparent progress farmers have made in clearing up debts, in paying taxes, and in improving their property since then, and the very wholesome business situation at present, those who have been leaders in our agricultural program are continuously being asked questions seeking answers to the real truth as to what actually has happened. This letter is intended briefly to supply you with some of these answers.

In the spring of 1933 cotton went down to 5-1/2 cents a pound, and cotton seed to around \$8.00 per ton. The cotton crop of 1932 sold for \$37.40 a bale, including the value of seed, and the 1935 crop sold for \$69.99, not including rental and benefit payments.

In the spring of 1933 the farm price of wheat in Texas was 33 cents per bushel. It is now selling for 98 cents per bushel.

In the spring of 1933 bright tobacco was down to around 11-1/2 cents per pound. The reports say the present season opened a few days ago at 22 cents per pound.

In the spring of 1933 the price of hogs was down below 3 cents per pound. On July 15, 1936 they were selling for 8-1/2 cents per pound.

In the spring of 1933 the price of chickens was down to 7 cents per pound. They are now selling around 13 cents per pound.

In the spring of 1933 the price of butter fat was down to 13 cents per pound. It is now up to 29 cents per pound.

In the spring of 1933 eggs were selling at only 7 cents a dozen. They are now selling at 18 cents a dozen.

In the spring of 1933 sweet potatoes went down to around 44 cents a bushel. The 1935 crop sold for about twice the 1933 price, and the price is now 90 cents per bushel.

The peanut crop of 1933 sold for an average of 1-1/2 cents a pound. The average received for the 1935 crop was more than 3 cents per pound.

And so the story goes with prices received by farmers in Texas for the things they have produced.

The 1932 Texas cotton crop, including the value of seed, brought a total of only \$158,343,000.

The 1933 crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought \$309,208,371.

The value of the 1934 crop, including lint and seed and benefit payments made to Texas cotton producers, was \$222,991,914.

The 1935 Texas crop, including the value of lint and seed and rental and benefit payments, brought a total of \$256,559,252. In other words, the 1935 crop brought exactly \$98,216,252 more than the 1932 crop brought, or more than one and one-half times what the 1932 crop brought.

We are now in the fourth year of the adjustment administration program. It is significant that we are now experiencing the fourth year of uninterrupted progress. The adjustment in acreage as between crops in Texas and the payment of \$175,861,814 in rental and benefit payments through June of the present year have played an exceedingly important part.

It is very important that Texans note the fact that the 1932 crop of 4,500,000 bales brought \$98,216,252 less than the 1935 crop of 2,956,000 bales.

It is also important to note the fact that whereas it took 13,334,000 acres of land to produce the 1932 crop, it took 10,657,000 acres to produce the 1935 crop, almost three million acres less.

So it would appear that Texans are not only devoting approximately one-third of their former cotton acres to land building or the production of food and feed, but that as measured in terms of what they got in 1932, have at the same time almost doubled their income from their cotton crop, though they are producing it on almost three million less acres of land.

The facts about exports are these: American cotton farmers received \$289,120,000 for the 8,419,399 bales of cotton exported in the 1932-33 season which immediately preceded the cotton program. They received \$354,357,000 for the 5,972,566 bales of cotton exported in the 1935-36 season, which ended July 31, 1936.

During the seasons of 1931-32 and 1932-33 foreign countries imported cotton at an abnormal rate. They took advantage of cheap cotton and stocked up at the expense of the American producer. They drew upon these stocks as long as they lasted in the hope of buying at starvation prices again. They are back in our markets, again, however, and exports are again moving back toward normal levels, the 1935-36 season showing a gain of 1,174,000 bales over the previous season.

That we have made real progress in laying the foundation for a safer agriculture in Texas, as well as throughout the United States, there can be no doubt. We have pulled down our carryover of cotton by some 6,000,000 bales as compared with what it was in the spring of 1933 when our program was launched, and the promise now is for a fairly satisfactory price this fall for both lint and seed.

Also, this year Texas farmers have experienced one of the most disastrous droughts in history, and for the first time, particularly in those sections where the drought has been most severe, they will get something in the way of full ap-

preciation of the insurance feature of the program. I wonder what the situation would be this fall with those who were wiped out by the drought if it were not for the payments they will receive for diverting cotton and other land to soil-conserving crops?

At the time when so much is being said about agriculture and particularly the effect of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration's program, and when we are being asked so many questions, it would seem wise, as we have just done, to review the facts so that our answers can be definite and conclusions correctly drawn. Particularly is it necessary that our conclusions be correctly drawn and that our understanding is perfectly clear as to what will happen if we are to be confronted with anything in the way of even a partially successful attempt to force the abandonment of national programs aimed at securing equality for agriculture.

You and your neighbors are right now in the midst of the problems of determining performance for the present year. This is to express the hope that each of you will help see to it that not only everything is done in proper order, but that foundation is laid for a fuller cooperation on the part of all farmers in the future than we have ever had before.

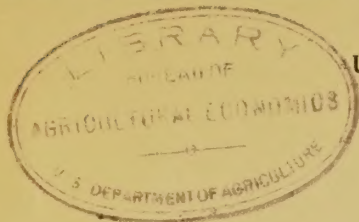
In passing, it seems important to remark that we are not out of the woods by any manner of means, and that the real battle for equality of opportunity for farm people is just beginning to get under way in earnest.

With many best wishes for continued success, I am

Most sincerely yours,



C. A. Cobb,
Director, Southern Division.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OCT 8 1936
5085
M. 6
1142

September 14, 1936

Dear Mr. Committeeman:

Because of drought or other unfavorable weather conditions there will likely be some farmers in your community who, up to date, have been unable to plant a sufficient acreage of soil-conserving crops to qualify them for the full payments for diversion of soil-depleting crops. Many farmers who intended to plant summer legumes for this purpose were prevented from doing so. Your position enables you to explain to such farmers in your community that cropland which has, during 1936, been idle up to date may be planted prior to October 31 to winter legumes such as vetch, Austrian winter peas, or clovers, and that such acreage will be classed as soil-conserving. Such acreage will aid those who need more soil-conserving crop acreage to qualify for payments for crops diverted and will build up the soil-building allowance and also be eligible for soil-building payments.

Doubtless many of these farmers, as well as others in your community, have not, as yet, put into effect enough soil-building practices to use their soil-building allowance for 1936. As you know, the rate of payment for seeding winter legumes such as vetch, Austrian winter peas, and clovers is \$1.00 per acre. Those farmers who need a larger acreage of soil-conserving crops in order to qualify for the maximum diversion payments or who have failed to use all of their soil-building allowance may seed some of these crops for these purposes. In addition they have the benefits of the effects of these crops in control of erosion, in preventing leaching of plant food and in the increased yields of succeeding crops.

Farmers who have never successfully grown winter legumes will need information as to the most effective practices to be followed. Some of the factors that must be considered in order to succeed with winter legumes are as follows:

- (1) Planting at the proper time.
- (2) Use of a proper amount of seed.
- (3) Thorough inoculation when planted on land that is not inoculated.
- (4) Favorable soil conditions. In many cases soil conditions may be such that the application of lime, phosphoric acid or other fertilizers will be essential for success.
- (5) Correct method of seeding.

It is suggested that the practices found successful locally should be studied and that the county agent and other agricultural leaders in your community be called upon for further specific information with reference to the most effective practices to follow.

Sincerely yours,

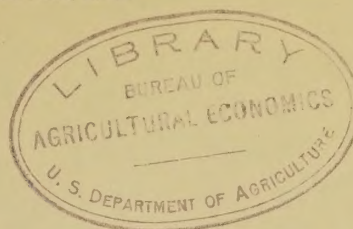
C. A. Cobb

C. A. Cobb,

Director, Southern Division.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

1.42
5085
m.7
NOV 24 1936



October 26, 1936

Dear Mr. Committeeman:

It is recognized that early development of the 1937 Agricultural Conservation Program is necessary if farmers are to enjoy the maximum benefits possible and are to prevent a return to disastrous prices.

However, we should not adopt a single feature of the 1937 program until it has been discussed and agreed upon by the producers. With that in mind, I am asking committeemen in the Southern Region to assist us in acquainting farmers with the more important questions that must be considered.

As you know, the fundamental objectives of the Agricultural Conservation Program are to check soil erosion, to conserve and improve soil fertility, to encourage better land use, and to restore and maintain an equitable level of farm income.

Our Agricultural Conservation Program has been in operation for one year. We must now decide what changes or additions are necessary to assist us in holding the gains we have made and what is necessary to insure progress.

We shall have to decide whether any changes should be made in the classification of crops as soil-conserving, soil-depleting, or neutral. We must decide what would be a desirable acreage to devote to our major crops, considering the interests of the consumer and the farmer. We should discuss the maximum percentage of land on any farm that should be diverted from soil-depleting to soil-conserving crops for payment; the rates of payment to be made; and the desirability of crop insurance beyond that provided in our present program.

We should have the farmer's reaction to the desirability of making payments to encourage improvement in the quality of cotton and other products. We also need to know whether we should divide our 1937 payments so as to further emphasize diversion from soil-depleting to soil-conserving crops or to further encourage soil-building practices.

These and many other questions about our Agricultural Conservation Program are being discussed by thousands of farmers in the Southern Region. You can be of service by bringing these vital questions to the attention of the farmers in your community in order that they can be thinking them over, and by helping your county agent secure a good attendance at any community meeting that is being held for the purpose of discussing the Agricultural Conservation Program.

Sincerely yours,

C. A. Cobb

C. A. Cobb.

Director, Southern Division.

